

AUSTRALASIAN COLEOPTERA

BY ARTHUR M. LEA, F.E.S., ENTOMOLOGIST, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

Figs. 1-2.

FAMILY STAPHYLINIDAE.

THE New Guinea Staphylinidae, here dealt with, are all described from single specimens that were sent to Dr. Cameron, and returned by him as new; some other species were also returned by him as new, but as they are inconspicuous or too closely related to others, it was undesirable to name them.

OXYTELUS OBLONGIFER sp. nov.

♀ Black, muzzle, basal joint of antennae, palpi, base of elytra, tips of abdominal segments, sterna, and legs testaceous-brown.

Head not very large, base with a semi-circular impression; antennary ridges rather long and well defined, between them a transverse oblong space, bounded by distinct impressions; with crowded and rather small but sharply defined punctures. Antennae with seventh-tenth joints transverse. Prothorax at apex almost twice as wide as long, sides feebly decreasing in width to base; with crowded punctures, slightly larger than on head, and with several shallow depressions, but without well defined longitudinal ones. Elytra moderately transverse, at base slightly wider than apex of prothorax; with punctures about the same size but less crowded. Abdomen very minutely punctate or shagreened. Legs rather thin. Length, 4.5 mm.

New Guinea: Finsch Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

To a certain extent approaching *O. wallensis* (from Victoria) but interocular impressions different, and prothorax with less defined longitudinal impressions and coarser punctures. There is an obscurely pale space at the base of the elytra, which is fairly distinct at the shoulders, and is dilated to the suture at the basal third, but becomes very ill defined towards it. The oblong space on the front of the head from some directions appears shining and with very small punctures, but from others appears subopaque and with fairly well defined ones. The abdomen has a somewhat leathery appearance.

OSORIUS STRIGICEPS sp. nov.

Black, shining, elytra and abdomen not quite as black as head and prothorax, legs and palpi reddish-brown, antennae slightly darker. Clothed with short,

brown, sloping setae, becoming longer and paler on abdomen, especially at apex.

Head closely longitudinally strigose, except at base, which is smooth and shining. Basal joint of antennae as long as four following combined, sixth to tenth distinctly wider than the others and transverse. Prothorax slightly wider than head, slightly longer than the basal width, but less than the apical width, parallel-sided to basal third, and then oblique to base; with crowded and sharply defined but not very large punctures, leaving a narrow, polished median line. Elytra about as long as wide, the width of apex of prothorax, a narrowly impressed line on each side of suture; with rugose punctures somewhat sparser and smaller than on prothorax. Abdomen cylindrical, punctures rather small, fourth and fifth segments the width of elytra. Front and middle tibiae strongly pectinated externally. Length, 5 mm.

New Guinea: Finseh Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

Allied to *O. carinellus*, but smaller and thinner, and elytra with denser and smaller but more sharply defined punctures.

STENUS CRIBRICOLLIS sp. nov.

Purplish-blue, antennae light brown, the four apical joints almost white, legs flavous, knees slightly infuscated. Under surface with fine silvery pubescence, upper surface of abdomen sparsely pubescent, rest of upper surface glabrous.

Head wide, interocular space depressed, and with sparse and small, but sharply defined punctures. Eyes about half the length of prothorax. Antennae long and thin, passing base of elytra, third joint longest of all, ninth and tenth wider than the others and, with the eleventh, forming a loose club. Prothorax subcylindrical, almost twice as long as wide; with crowded and rather small but sharply defined punctures. Elytra much wider and slightly longer than prothorax, and with larger but equally crowded punctures. Abdomen about half the total length, second to fourth segments strongly constricted and with fairly large punctures towards base, fifth and sixth longer and with smaller punctures than the preceding ones, fourth with an acute ridge on the under surface, ending in a sharp tooth. Legs long and thin. Length, 9 mm.

New Guinea: Hudewa (Rev. L. Wagner).

Allied to *S. caelestis* and *caeruleus*, but larger, antennae not uniformly coloured, prothorax longer and with denser and finer punctures (fully twice as dense), and elytral punctures denser. The palpi and one antenna are missing from the type, which appears to be a male.

ONDIETURUS PYRICOLLIS sp. nov.

Brownish-black, shining, antennae palpi and legs flavous. Glabrous, except for a few hairs at sides.

Head deeply constricted at base, with a narrow neck: with numerous large, sharply defined punctures. Antennae thin, slightly passing base of prothorax, first joint slightly longer than second and third combined, fifth to tenth feebly decreasing in length. Prothorax wider than head and much longer, sides rounded in front, and strongly narrowed to base, which is about half as wide as the greatest width; punctures about as large as on head but sparser, and with an impunctate median space. Elytra small, base narrow, greatest width (near apex) about equal to that of prothorax, punctures much as on head. Abdomen about half the total length, with punctures as on elytra, but becoming longitudinal at the base of each segment, fifth and sixth with sparser punctures than the others; anal styles almost the length of elytra. Legs long and thin. Length, 7 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

An apterous species, in general appearance like *O. cribricollis*, on a greatly reduced scale, but also very sparsely clothed. *O. grandis* and *cribripennis* are about the same size, but have more numerous setae, and the legs are partly black. Four of the abdominal segments are extended, exposing the thin connecting membranes, which are of a flavous colour.

OEDICHIRUS CRIBRIPENNIS nom. nov.

O. geniculatus Lea, nom. pr.

I have to thank Mr. C. Oke for calling my attention to the fact that the name *geniculatus* was previously used (1847) in this genus for a Brazilian species. As a substitute I propose the name *cribripennis* for the Australian species.

PAEDERUS MICROPTERTUS sp. nov.

Black and pale castaneous-brown, three apical joints of antennae flavous. Clothed with rather long and sparse, blackish hairs.

Head slightly longer than wide, widest across eyes; with sparse piliferous punctures. Antennae thin, extending to tips of elytra, first joint slightly longer than third, and more than twice the length of second, fourth-tenth subequal. Prothorax slightly longer than head, and distinctly thinner, sides evenly rounded and scarcely wider at apex than at base; with sparse and small piliferous punctures. Elytra small, slightly shorter than prothorax, and evenly dilated to apex, which is about the width of the middle of prothorax, surface shagreened and with fairly large punctures. Abdomen about half the total length, greatest width equal to that of head; with a few scattered punctures; anal styles slightly shorter than elytra. Legs long and thin. Length, 13 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

An apterous species, structurally close to *P. femoratus*, but very differently coloured. The black parts are the head, prothorax, anal styles, third to eighth joints of antennae, tibiae and apex of femora.

MEDON INCONSPICUUS sp. nov.

Blackish-brown and somewhat shining, head black, muzzle, antennae and legs dull brown. Closely covered with minute pubescence, and with sparse hairs on the sides, becoming longer, darker, and more numerous at the apex of abdomen.

Head (excluding parts in front of eyes) slightly transverse, hind angles rounded off; with dense and minute punctures. Antennae slightly passing base of prothorax, first joint as long as the three following combined, fourth as long as wide, slightly shorter than third, the others feebly decreasing in length till the tenth is moderately transverse. Prothorax the width of head, and with similar punctures, about as long as wide, angles rounded off. Elytra quadrate, slightly wider and longer than prothorax, and with slightly stronger punctures. Abdomen about half the total length, across middle the width of elytra. Legs rather thin. Length, 4.5 mm.

New Guinea: Finsech Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

In general appearance like *M. curtus* on a reduced size, but narrower, punctures less sharply defined, and antennae and legs longer; structurally it is close to *M. leai* (from the Malay Peninsula), but is slightly thinner, less opaque, shoulders not pale, and legs darker; from *M. lindi* (from Australia), it differs in having a slightly larger head, with stouter antennae, shorter prothorax, and distinctly shorter head, its colours are practically identical with those of that species; structurally it is also close to *L. ochraceus*, but is considerably darker.

MEDON PICTUS sp. nov.

Red, elytra dark brown, apical two-fifths flavous, abdomen with fourth and part of fifth segment as dark as base of prothorax, basal segments slightly paler, the apex still paler; legs flavous, mandibles, palpi and antennae slightly redder. With minute pale pubescence, more distinct on elytra and abdomen than elsewhere, apex of abdomen with short and fairly numerous setae.

Head subquadrate behind antennae, hind angles slightly rounded; with fairly dense and sharply defined but small punctures. Antennae not extending to base of prothorax, fourth to tenth joints transverse. Prothorax the width of head and slightly shorter, sides feebly decreasing in width to near base, where they are strongly rounded off; with punctures as on head, except on a slightly elevated median line. Elytra the width of head and fully its length (including the jaws), feebly impressed on each side of suture; punctures slightly coarser than on head. Abdomen less than half the total length, fourth and fifth segments the width of

elytra, the others narrower; punctures smaller than on head. Legs not very long. Length, 3.5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

Approaching *M. cinctus* and *fasciatus*, but wider, less shining, black part of elytra basal instead of subapical, and with denser and stronger punctures.

CHARICHIRUS LINEIFER sp. nov.

Blackish, subopaque, muzzle, antennae, palpi, apical fourth of elytra, tip of abdomen and legs testaceous-brown. Minutely pubescent all over, and with a few hairs at sides, becoming fairly numerous at apex of abdomen.

Head strongly narrowed in front, parallel-sided behind eyes, hind angles rounded off, base feebly bilobed. Antennae distinctly passing base of prothorax, first joint almost as long as second and third combined, third longer than second, the others gradually decreasing in length to tenth, which is feebly transverse. Prothorax slightly transverse, apex about the width of head, sides feebly decreasing in width to base, with a shining, narrow, complete median line. Elytra slightly longer than wide, sides feebly increasing in width posteriorly; with dense and minute punctures. Four basal segments of abdomen parallel-sided, the following ones narrowed. Legs moderately long. Length, 6 mm.

New Guinea: Finsch Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

Fairly close to *C. chinensis*, but somewhat narrower, median carina of pronotum more defined, and less of apical portion of elytra pale. The elytral punctures are very dense and minute, but can be distinguished with a strong lens; on the rest of the upper surface the punctures are still finer, so that the surface might fairly be regarded as shagreened.

METOPONCUS APICIVENTRIS sp. nov.

Head, basal two-thirds of third segment of abdomen, fourth (except the tip) and all the following ones black, elytra deep purple; prothorax (apical half deeply infuscated), antennae, palpi, and legs more or less reddish, two basal segments of abdomen and parts of the two following ones reddish-flavous. With a few dark hairs at sides, but conspicuously longer and fairly numerous ones at tip of abdomen.

Head almost twice as long as wide, with an oblique groove close to the inner side of each eye, a double projection between the antennae, sloping downwards in front; punctures sparse and minute. Antennae short, most of the joints transverse, first as long as three following combined. Prothorax distinctly longer than wide, shorter than head, the apex almost as wide, sides feebly diminishing in width to base; with a few distinct punctures. Elytra about as long and as wide as

prothorax, impunctate. Abdomen about half the total length, six basal segments parallel-sided and with elevated margins, the following ones narrower and not margined. Femora and tibiae short, tarsi thin. Length, 7 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

Structurally fairly close to *M. semiruber* (from Fiji), but slightly narrower, head black, and red segments of abdomen differently placed. *M. hoploccephalus* (also from Fiji), has the head red and abdomen entirely black. The elytra at first glance appear to be shining black.

PHILOXTHUS INTERANTENNALIS sp. nov.

Head and parts of abdomen black, prothorax castaneous, a large blackish blotch occupying the apical two-thirds, but not extending to sides or extreme apex; elytra, tips and margins of four basal segments of abdomen, more than half of fifth, all sixth, and the legs castaneous; muzzle, jaws, palpi and scutellum darker; basal joint of antennae brownish-castaneous, second to ninth blackish, tenth and eleventh brownish-flavous. With rather sparse black hairs, mostly on the sides, but becoming numerous at apex of abdomen, elytra with stiff, pale pubescence or short setae.

Head subquadrate, but angles rounded off, with large punctures scattered about posteriorly and near the eyes, but one immediately behind each antenna; a small fovea half-way between the antennae. Eyes about as long as basal joint of antennae. Antennae slightly passing base of prothorax, first joint almost as long as second and third combined, these subequal, the following ones gradually decreasing in length, seventh-tenth transverse. Prothorax scarcely narrower than head, slightly longer than wide, front angles feebly rounded off, sides parallel to base, which is evenly rounded; with a few large punctures scattered about, and four forming a row on each side of middle. Elytra slightly wider and longer than prothorax, feebly dilated posteriorly; with small and not very dense, but sharply defined punctures. Abdomen slightly wider in middle than elsewhere, each of four basal segments with an apical row of setiferous punctures, and irregular ones elsewhere. Legs rather short. Length, 8 mm.

New Guinea: Finsch Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

The outlines are somewhat as on *P. menamarae*, but the prothorax and elytra are differently coloured, and the elytral punctures are very different.

On each side of the apex of the sixth segment of the abdomen of the type, and exterior to the anal styles, there is a white style-like process, slightly longer than the styles, and without hairs. They are possibly parasites that were killed at the time of capture.

PHILONTHUS CASTANEICOLLIS sp. nov.

Most of the head shining black, prothorax bright castaneous, parts of elytra, of abdomen and legs dull flavo-castaneous, muzzle darker, antennae with two basal joints somewhat castaneous, the five following ones blackish; the others paler, with the tenth and eleventh brownish-flavous.

Head moderately convex, hind angles rounded off; with fairly large punctures towards base and about eyes, a conspicuous one behind each antenna, and a median fovea between them. Antennae slightly passing base of prothorax, first joint almost as long as second and third combined, third slightly longer than second, the others to tenth gradually decreasing in length, till the ninth and tenth are transverse. Prothorax about as long as wide, sides almost parallel, front angles almost square, the hind ones strongly rounded; with a row of four distinct punctures on each side of middle, a row of two towards each side, and a few elsewhere. Elytra transverse, at base wider than prothorax, sides slightly dilated posteriorly; with rather small and sparse, but sharply defined punctures. Four basal segments of abdomen almost parallel-sided; with small setiferous punctures, mostly in transverse rows; anal styles rather long. Legs moderately long. Length, 7 mm.

New Guinea: Finsehl Haven (Rev. L. Wagner).

The middle joints of the antennae are distinctly darker than the basal and apical ones, but the eleventh is not much paler than the first. The apical third of the elytra (but not the margins) is deeply infuscated, almost black, the scutellum, metasternum, and parts of four basal segments of abdomen are deeply infuscated, but parts of the abdomen have a bluish iridescence; the anal styles are no darker than the two apical segments. The interantennary fovea is smaller than on the preceding species, and not quite as close to the clypeus, on that species it is almost in contact with it.

PHILONTHUS PAUPER sp. nov.

Black, shining, tip of each abdominal segment, and legs (the femora paler) testaceo-flavous, antennae blackish-brown, first and eleventh joints paler. With a few black hairs at sides, becoming numerous at tip of abdomen; elytra with dark pubescence.

Head rather small and convex; with a few large punctures towards base and near eyes, a distinct one behind each antenna. Antennae slightly passing base of prothorax, first joint almost as long as second and third combined, sixth to tenth slightly transverse. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, and slightly wider than head, front angles square, sides feebly dilated to beyond the middle, base widely rounded; with a few scattered punctures, and four forming a row on each side

of middle. Elytra slightly transverse, sides feebly dilated posteriorly; with rather small and not very sharply defined punctures. Abdomen parallel-sided to beyond the middle, with small punctures, anal styles rather long. Legs moderately long. Length, 5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

Allied to *P. orcophilus*, but prothorax black, tibiae paler, and elytral punctures much less sharply defined. The colours are somewhat as on the widely distributed *P. nigritulus*, but the prothorax is distinctly wider and the head is shorter. The muzzle and palpi are not black, but obscurely piecons; parts of the abdomen are somewhat iridescent. The type appears to be a female.

HESPERUS QUINQUECOLOR sp. nov.

Head, antennae (three apical joints whitish), scutellum and abdomen black; prothorax, sterna and legs bright castaneous; jaws and palpi darker, elytra bright purple, becoming bluish at suture. With some long black hairs scattered about, elytra with rather long pubescence, becoming sparser on prothorax.

Head moderately convex, base almost semicircular; with rather sparse punctures, becoming very sparse in front. Eyes about one-third the length of prothorax. Antennae passing base of prothorax, third joint distinctly shorter than first, and much longer than second or fourth, the others gradually decreasing in length to tenth, which is feebly transverse. Prothorax longer than wide, apex the width of head, sides decreasing in width to base, which is rounded off; with sparse and minute punctures. Elytra much wider than prothorax, impressed on each side of suture; with fairly dense, small punctures. Abdomen about half total length, first and second segments with a narrow line at base, third and fourth with irregular punctures there, a fine row at apex and irregular ones elsewhere, fifth and sixth with larger and irregular piliferous punctures; anal styles conspicuous. Legs long. Length, 10 mm.

New Guinea: Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner).

A beautiful species, approaching *H. rufithorax*, but abdomen black, and antennae stouter.

HESPERUS GAGATIVENTRIS sp. nov.

Bright reddish-castaneous, fourth-ninth joints of antennae black, eleventh dull pale brown, tenth intermediate in colour, scutellum, metasternum and abdomen black, elytra bronzy-purple, becoming purple at sides and apex. With sparse long hairs on sides of upper surface, becoming numerous at apex of abdomen, elytra sparsely pubescent.

Head with hind angles strongly rounded off; with a few scattered punctures, including three near each eye and two close together in front of middle. Antennae not extending to base of prothorax, first joint as long as second and third combined, these subequal, fourth and fifth subglobular, sixth-tenth transverse, and subequal. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, front angles almost square, sides gently decreasing in width to base, hind angles strongly rounded off; with a row of three strong punctures on each side of middle. Elytra moderately transverse, much wider than prothorax, each separately rounded at apex, the sides gently rounded; with sharply defined, rather small, and not very dense punctures. Abdomen half total length, fifth segment longest of all; with small punctures, mostly in transverse series. Legs moderately long. Length, 7 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

Another beautiful species, with prothorax and elytra somewhat as on *H. rufithorax*, but head and abdomen different. The abdomen is of a polished black, with sharply defined punctures.

HESPERUS BIFUSCIPENNIS sp. nov.

Bright pale castaneous, head (snuzzle excepted) and prothorax deep metallic blue, a large infuscate blotch on each elytron near suture, anal styles black, fourth to eighth joints of antennae blackish, the following ones flavous. Upper surface with a few dark hairs; elytra with yellowish pubescence, becoming sparser and shorter on under surface.

Head rather large, hind angles rounded off; with sparse and minute punctures, and a few large ones about base and sides of eyes. Eyes about half the length of prothorax. Antennae slightly passing scutellum, third joint much shorter than first, longer than second and still longer than fourth, sixth-tenth slightly decreasing in length and increasing in width. Prothorax distinctly longer than wide, front angles rectangular, sides parallel for a short distance and then decreasing in width to base, which is gently rounded; with minute punctures and a few large ones scattered about, and a row of three distinct ones on each side of middle. Elytra transverse, distinctly wider than head, sides feebly dilated to apex; with fairly dense and rather small, asperate punctures, having a granulate appearance. Abdomen gently decreasing in width to apex; with small setiferous punctures, mostly in transverse series. Legs moderately long. Length, 12 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

Allied to *H. gratiosus*, but head and prothorax blue, and only tip of abdomen black, there are also differences in the punctures. In some lights a golden gloss may be seen on parts of the elytra.

BELONUCHUS MARGINICOLLIS sp. nov.

Black, shining, muzzle, mandibles (tips darker), antennae, palpi, elytra and legs bright castaneous. With a few dark hairs on the sides, the elytra finely pubescent.

Head flattened, base bilobed; with a few distinct punctures scattered about, including three in line with each antenna: one near it, the others near the base. Antennae scarcely passing middle of prothorax, first joint as long as second and third combined, third longer than second, the following to tenth transverse. Prothorax at apex almost the width of head, sides feebly diminishing to near base, the base itself widely rounded; with a row of large punctures on each side of middle, with some others towards and on sides, and some smaller but distinct ones on basal edge. Elytra slightly transverse, wider than head; with small and not very dense, but sharply defined punctures, and a few larger ones scattered about. Abdomen with small and moderately large punctures. Legs not very long. Length, 7 mm.

New Guinea: Komba (Rev. L. Wagner).

Structurally fairly close to *B. lividipes*, but elytra shining castaneous. The three basal joints of the antennae are shining, the others are opaque and finely pubescent. There are four punctures on the left row on the prothorax, and five on the right, of the type.

FAMILY NOSODENDRIDAE.

This family, of world-wide distribution in the tropics, was at one time considered as belonging to the Byrrhidae. The Eastern species were recently revised by Champion (1). The following Australasian species are known:

NOSODENDRON AUSTRALE Fairm. New Caledonia.

N. CALVUM Tryon. New Guinea.

N. GLABRATUM Champ. Solomon Islands.

N. OVATUM Brohm. New Zealand.

N. SERIATUM Brohm. New Zealand.

N. VESTITUM Tryon. New Guinea.

N. ZEALANDICUM Sharp. New Zealand.

I have to thank Mr. G. J. Arrow, of the British Museum, for the generic identification of two species from New Guinea and Fiji, and can now confidently deal with five from Australasia; all of which belong to the subgenus *Dendrodipnis*, characterized by the middle and hind tarsi received in grooves when at rest.

(1) Champion, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., July-Dec., 1923, p. 578.

NOSODENDRON, Latr., Nouv. Dict. Hist. Nat., XXIV, 1804, p. 146.

Dendrodipnis, Woll., Ent. Mo. Mag., 1873, p. 33.

Dendropinis, Tryon, Col. Brit. N. Guinea, in Rept. Admin., 1892, App., V, p. 109.

NOSODENDRON CALVUM Tryon.

This is a large (8-10 mm.), highly polished, black species, the mentum not longitudinally impressed, with fairly large, sharply defined punctures, and the elytra with a conspicuous median band of strong punctures, and very fine ones elsewhere. There are specimens in the South Australian Museum from Mount Lamington and the Finseh Haven district. The type has perished.

NOSODENDRON VESTITUM Tryon.

The type of this species has also perished. It was described as being "uniformly clothed with short erect pubescence," and as having its mentum with a longitudinal groove; characters which readily distinguish it from all the Australasian members before me, and ally it with the subsequently described *N. hispidum* Champ., from India, Java, etc.

NOSODENDRON AUSTRALICUM sp. nov.

Black, highly polished, antennae obscurely paler.

Head with fairly dense, minute punctures. Mentum not longitudinally impressed; with fairly large and dense, sharply defined punctures. Prothorax almost four times as wide as long, sides and apex (except the median half) distinctly margined, punctures as on head. Elytra with outlines subcontinuous with those of prothorax; with regular rows of sharply defined, but not very large punctures, the derm generally with very minute punctures and minutely wrinkled. Under surface almost impunctate, except at sides. Length, 5.5-6.0 mm.

Queensland: Coen River (H. Haeker, No. 937), Kuranda (F. P. and A. R. Dodd).

An elongate-elliptic species, much smaller and somewhat narrower than *N. calvum*, and with regular rows of punctures on the elytra. Some of the specimens from Cairns are slightly smaller than those from the Coen River, and have somewhat larger seriate punctures on the elytra, and larger ones at the posterior end of the metasternum. Although when cleaned the derm is seen to be highly polished, it was difficult to remove extraneous material that adhered to most of the specimens.

NOSODENDRON INTERRUPTUM sp. nov.

Black, highly polished, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish.

Head (including mentum) and prothorax with punctures as on the preced-

ing species. Elytra with series of rather small but distinct punctures, except that the first row on each side of the suture begins at the basal third, and the next row, although beginning at the base, is interrupted for a short distance, the third is traceable to the base, but is very feeble near it. Length, 4 mm.

Queensland: Cairns (C. J. Wild). Unique.

Smaller and more strongly convex than the preceding species, and seriate punctures of elytra different; the other punctures on the elytra, although minute, are slightly larger and more sharply defined.

NOSODENDRON MEDIOBASALE sp. nov.

Black, highly polished, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish.

Head with crowded and small punctures, sparser and smaller in middle than on sides, with a shallow depression on each side in front, and a still more shallow one between the eyes. Mentum with dense and moderately large, sharply defined punctures, and a small mediobasal impression. Prothorax more than thrice as wide as the medium length, base somewhat sinuous, sides and sides of apex finely margined; with minute punctures becoming larger and sharply defined, but still small, on sides. Elytra with series of distinct punctures, larger in middle than elsewhere, the first row on each side of suture interrupted at the basal third, the second row also interrupted there, and ended at the middle; interstices with very sparse and minute punctures. Metasternum with sharply defined punctures at sides and posteriorly. Length, 7 mm.

New Guinea: Finsch Haven (Rev. L. Wagner). Unique.

Close to *N. australicum*, but elytral punctures not quite the same, and mentum with a mediobasal impression; *N. calvum* is much larger, and has strikingly different elytral punctures.

NOSODENDRON FIJIENSE sp. nov.

Black, highly polished, antennae dull red.

Head semicircular in front of eyes; with dense and small punctures at sides, scarcely visible elsewhere. Mentum smooth, with sparse and minute punctures. Prothorax about four times as wide as long, sides and sides of apex finely margined; with fairly numerous small punctures at sides, absent or scarcely visible elsewhere. Elytra with outlines continuous with those of prothorax; without punctures, except some minute ones on a small latero-basal space. Metasternum with a few distinct punctures. Length, 6.0–7.5 mm.

Fiji: Tavuni, in May (A. M. Lea).

Slightly wider in proportion than all the preceding species, and readily distinguished from them by the almost impunctate elytra, and minutely punctate mentum.

FAMILY TENEBRIONIDAE.

OCNERA HISPIDA Forsk. (2).

Mr. E. J. Johnston, on two recent occasions has taken this species in abundance at Wallaroo (South Australia). A specimen was standing in the South Australian Museum under the name, but thinking it desirable to have it confirmed, specimens were sent to Mr. Arrow of the British Museum, and the name was authenticated by Mr. Blair.

The species is nearly an inch in length, subopaque black, and with numerous setose granules on the upper surface (about twenty rows on each elytron), legs and parts of the under surface.

It is remarkable that, as with *Blaps gigas azorica* (3) this species so far should be known only from Wallaroo; probably (as surmised for the *Blaps*), it was brought in with ballast of wheat ships.

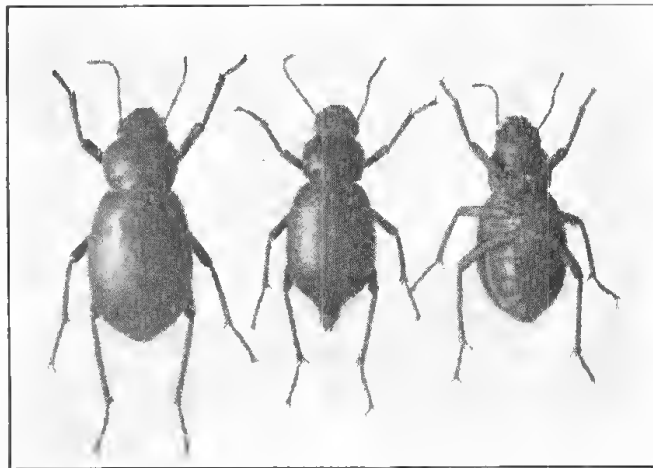


Fig. 1. *Ocnera hispida* Forsk. Natural size. Photo, B. Cotton.

FAMILY CURCULIONIDAE.

MELANTERIUS PAPUENSIS sp. nov.

♀ Black, shining. Under surface and legs sparsely clothed, upper surface glabrous.

Head with sparse and small punctures. Eyes separated less than half the width of rostrum. Rostrum long, thin, strongly curved; with small punctures, even at base. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Pro-

(2) Forskal, Descript. Anim., 1775, p. 79.

(3) Lea, Rec. S. Aust. Mus., 1930, p. 243, fig. 1.

thorax (with head) subtriangular, moderately transverse; with numerous, but not crowded, sharply defined punctures of moderate size. Elytra subcordate, near base wider than prothorax; with regular rows of large, oblong punctures, interstices flat or feebly rounded, nowhere ridged, wider than punctures. Metasternum and basal segment of abdomen with larger punctures than on prothorax. Metasternal episterna almost vanishing before anterior hook, with a single row of punctures. Legs rather long, femora strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 5.5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

A moderately large and rather wide, jet-black species; the first of the genus to be recorded from New Guinea. By the amended table of the genus ⁽⁴⁾ it could be associated with *M. compactus* and *castaneus*, two much smaller species from Western Australia, with which it has but little in common.

MELANTERIUS CURVIROSTRIS sp. nov.

Blackish, rostrum and legs obscurely diluted with red, elytra and antennae paler. Sides of prothorax, under surface and legs sparsely clothed, elsewhere glabrous.

Head with dense and rather small punctures. Eyes widely separated. Rostrum long, thin, strongly curved; with sparse and small punctures, but denser close to base than elsewhere. Antennae inserted almost in exact middle of sides of rostrum. Prothorax (with head) almost equilaterally triangular, sides gently rounded, base bisinuate; with dense and rather small, sharply defined punctures, becoming crowded on sides. Elytra oblong-cordate; with rows of rather large punctures, in wide striae, interstices between shoulders and suture not ridged on basal third, but all acutely ridged posteriorly, all with small punctures. Metasternum with punctures as on prothorax; the episterna each with crowded punctures at ends, but not in middle. Abdomen with dense punctures, but sparser and smaller than on metasternum, basal segment feebly depressed in middle. Femora not very strongly dentate, tibiae thin. Length, 5.5 mm.

New Holland. Type (unique), in British Museum.

A medium sized species, with unusually long and curved rostrum, even longer than on *Neomelanterius carinicollis*, and quite as strongly curved. It is allied to *M. biserialus*, but the rostrum is longer, and the punctures on the elytral interstices are much smaller and less regular; on that species there are two sharply defined rows of punctures on each interstice. The type is probably a female, although the basal segment of the abdomen is not evenly convex.

(4) Lea, Proc. Linn. Soc., N. S. Wales, 1899, p. 454.

MELANTERIUS VILLOSIPES sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Moderately clothed with white setae, becoming longer on under surface, the legs with long hairs, in addition to white setae.

Head with dense, partly concealed punctures. Eyes separated about half the width of base of rostrum. Rostrum moderately long and curved, with a fine median carina to beyond the middle; each side of it with two punctate striae, in front with numerous small but distinct punctures. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax slightly transverse, sides gently decreasing in width to apex; with crowded and small, partly concealed punctures. Elytra subcordate, suddenly but not much with than prothorax; with regular rows of punctures, interstices ridged posteriorly and on the sides, with crowded punctures. Metasternum depressed in middle, with crowded punctures, except on parts of episterna. Abdomen with punctures as on metasternum, the basal segment feebly flattened in middle. Femora acutely and rather strongly dentate. Length, 3 mm.

Queensland: Stanthorpe (J. Sutton).

A small black species with submaculate clothing, from the upper surface apparently allied to *M. maculatus* and *acaciae*, but distinct from those, and from all others of the genus, by the long clothing on all the legs, although this may be confined to the male. On the type the long hairs are slightly more than half the length of the tibiae, they form a straggling fringe on each tibia, are fairly numerous on the femora and tarsi, and numerous on the abdomen, but being somewhat depressed there, are less distinct than elsewhere. The elytral interstices are sharply ridged posteriorly and on the sides, but, owing to the clothing and density of the punctures, the ridges are not as distinct as on other species having them equally acute. A second specimen has much sparser clothing (probably owing to abrasion) on the legs than on the type, but as its rostrum, metasternum and abdomen agree, it is presumably also a male.

MELANTERIUS SETISTRIATUS sp. nov.

♂ Blackish, rostrum, antennae and legs obscurely diluted with red. Moderately clothed with short, white setae.

Head with dense and small punctures. Eyes widely separated. Rostrum the length of prothorax, moderately curved; with dense punctures, becoming smaller in front, and with a feeble median carina. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax small, sides rounded and decreasing in width from base to apex; with dense punctures of moderate size, crowded on sides, each containing a white seta. Elytra elongate-cordate, median sinns fairly

strong, the others feeble; with rows of fairly large punctures, in deep striae, interstices acutely ridged, except four or five at the basal third, fourth with a small tubercle at basal fourth. Metasternum with punctures as on pronotum. Basal segment of abdomen slightly concave in middle; punctures towards base stronger than on metasternum, but becoming smaller posteriorly; apical segment with a transverse depression. Femora strongly and acutely dentate, the front ones less acutely than the others. Length, 3.0-3.2 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum longer, thinner, more curved, with sparser and smaller punctures, and non-carinate, and basal segment of abdomen larger and evenly convex.

North Western Australia. Types, in Macleay Museum.

Several of the elytral interstices are flattened or rounded towards the base, but as they are all more or less acutely ridged, from at least the basal third to the apex, the species, in the 1899 table of the genus, could be placed after *M. serrulus*; on that species the shoulders are rounded, on this one they are very feebly produced (seen from directly above or from in front); and so the species could be associated with *M. acaciae*, although the abdominal fovea is distinctly wider than long. In general appearance it is somewhat like a small and narrow specimen of that species, but the prothorax is decidedly smaller in proportion. *M. tenuis*, also from North Western Australia, is a slightly larger species, with much less acutely ridged interstices, longer rostrum, and antennae inserted nearer the base of rostrum. The setae cause the upper surface to appear greyish, they are smaller on the elytra than elsewhere, and form a regular row on each side of each interstice. The slight tubercle on the fourth interstice is alike on both specimens, but may not be constant. On the female the three apical segments of abdomen are reddish, probably from immaturity, and the end one has a depression, but smaller than on the male.

MELANTERIUS ATRONITENS sp. nov.

Blackish, parts of rostrum, of legs, and most of antennae obscurely reddish. Upper surface almost glabrous, under surface and legs moderately clothed with white scales.

Head shagreened towards base, with sharply defined but not very large punctures in front. Eyes large, at their nearest approach separated about half the width of rostrum at base. Rostrum rather thin, moderately curved, slightly longer than prothorax; with crowded punctures on basal third, becoming sparser and minute in front, and with a feeble median ridge on basal half. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax not much wider than long, sides gently rounded, apex about two-thirds the width of base; with dense

but not confluent, sharply defined punctures of moderate size. Elytra elongate-subcordate, considerably wider than prothorax, but shoulders rounded off, sides thence subparallel to beyond the middle, base feebly trisinate; with rows of large punctures, becoming smaller and more deeply set posteriorly, interstices conspicuously ridged on apical slope and on sides, and each with a row of small punctures, elsewhere not ridged and with crowded and larger punctures. Under surface with punctures about as large as on prothorax, but less crowded; metasternal episterna each with an almost regular row of punctures. Basal segment of abdomen evenly convex, second about one-third shorter than first, distinctly longer than fifth, and slightly longer than third and fourth combined. Legs rather long, femora stout, front ones slightly, middle moderately, hind ones strongly dentate. Length, 6.5 mm.

North Western Australia: Onslow (— Kraatz). Unique.

A large species, in general appearance fairly close to *M. leptorrhynchus*, but the elytral interstices not ridged on the basal half (although almost as acutely ridged posteriorly), the rostrum much shorter, and the femoral teeth smaller and less acute; there is a small supplementary tooth in the notch on each femur, but it could be easily overlooked. The rostrum is about the length of that of *M. unidentatus* and *bidentatus*, but the elytral interstices are very different. At first glance the elytra appear to be glabrous, but on close examination they are seen to have a row of minute white setae on each side of each interstice; on the disc of the pronotum each puncture has a minute seta, but they become distinct on the sides. The front margin of the prothorax appears as a narrow, highly polished rim. The type appears to be a female.

MELANTERIUS LATUS Lea.

A specimen of this species, from Cairns, and another from the Tweed River, are slightly larger, 5 mm., than the types, and the Tweed River one has elytra entirely dull red. A specimen, from "Australia" in the British Museum, is probably a female, it differs from the type in being still larger, 6.5 mm., rostrum longer, thinner, with sparser and smaller punctures, and prothorax with fewer punctures longitudinally confluent.

MELANTERIUS VENTRALIS Lea.

The type of this species is a male. A specimen from Bulladelah (New South Wales), in the National Museum, is evidently a female, it differs in having the rostrum longer, thinner, more curved and polished, except for a punctate space close to base; the abdomen is very sparsely clothed, the second segment is larger, evenly convex, its tip not elevated or produced over the third, and the third and

fourth are each slightly smaller than the second, although decidedly larger than usual in the genus.

MELANTERIUS IMPOLITUS Lea.

A specimen from Sydney, in the National Museum, appears to be a male of this species; but is much darker than the type (which, however, is almost certainly immature), the derm of the upper surface being almost black. It differs in having the rostrum slightly stouter and less curved, with a fine median carina to beyond the middle, with crowded punctures on basal half, and numerous distinct ones elsewhere, some of the lateral interstices of elytra rather acutely ridged, the trochanter of each middle leg with a small fascicle, and the abdomen with denser and longer clothing, the apical segment with a large median fovea, the third and fourth large, and each slightly larger than the second. It is allied to *M. ventralis*, but differs from its male in having the basal segment of abdomen smaller, neither elevated at the apex, nor encroaching on the second, the fovea on the apical segment much smaller, and in the trochanters of the middle legs. *M. fasciculatus* is a larger black species, with larger fascicles and elytral interstices acutely costate. The type was evidently somewhat abraded; on the Sydney specimen the clothing of the upper surface is not very dense, except that the prothorax is slightly vittate, and that on the elytra there are numerous spots, mostly placed in the striae connecting two interstices.

MELANTERIUS LEGITIMUS Lea, var.

A male from Townsville (Queensland) in the British Museum, agrees in size and appearance with the type of this species, has some of the elytral interstices acutely ridged to the base, and each femur with a supplementary tooth in the notch. It differs, however, from the type, and some South Australian specimens, in having the prothoracic punctures less crowded, and the clothing on the legs less conspicuous. It should perhaps be considered as representing a variety.

NEOMELANTERIUS INTERRUPTUS Lea, var.

A specimen, from the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, possibly belongs to this species, but differs from the type, and a second specimen, in having the setae more stramineous than white, the rostrum slightly longer than the prothorax and quite straight, its basal carinae less conspicuous (owing to more numerous setae), the scape inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum, and as long as the funicle and club combined; all the tibiae are strongly curved at the base, the hind ones much more noticeably than the same pair of the types. The differences do not appear to be sexual. In general the species appears to be intermediate be-

tween those of the genus with long curved rostrum, and *Euthebus troglodytes*, but on the latter species the front and middle coxae are much more widely separated.

DIETHUSA INCISIPES sp. nov.

♂ Blackish-brown, legs and antennae paler. Densely clothed with whitish and purplish-brown scales, becoming pure white on under surface.

Rostrum moderately curved, slightly longer than prothorax, somewhat dilated, and with crowded, concealed punctures near base, shining and with sparse and small ones elsewhere. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax slightly transverse, sides rapidly diminishing in width to apex; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra subcordate, behind shoulders wider than prothorax, base strongly trisinate; striate-punctate, the striae and punctures considerably narrowed in appearance by the clothing. Basal segment of abdomen shallowly depressed in middle, apical with a small fovea. Femora strongly and acutely dentate, front tibiae falcate, with a strong apical hook and small apical fascicle, hind tibiae with a rather sharp apical notch, the middle ones rather feebly notched. Length, 3.2–3.4 mm.

Queensland: Stradbroke Island (H. J. Carter). Type, in National Museum; cotype, in South Australian Museum.

Allied to *D. falcata*, but slightly larger, and dark prothoracic marking dilated to base, instead of strongly narrowed there, the hind tibiae are also different. *D. picta*, with somewhat similar base of elytra, has very different legs. The colours, but not the disposition of the scales, are almost as on *D. nigrosuturalis*. In appearance it is close to *D. apicispina*, but all the tibiae are very different. On the type the darker scales form two small spots on the front of the head, an irregular median vitta dilated to base on the pronotum, and numerous spots on the elytra, covering more of the surface than the whitish scales. On a second specimen the prothoracic vitta is more narrowed to the apex, and the white spots and scales on the elytra cover almost half the surface, being more numerous posteriorly and on the sides than on the type. There are a few setae on the apical sides of the rostrum. Seen directly from above, each shoulder is seen to clasp the base of the prothorax, and to be slightly more produced than the swelling adjacent to the suture. The middle tibiae might fairly be regarded as bisinate on the under surface, but the hind ones are distinctly notched near apex.

DIETHUSA TRUNCATIDENS sp. nov.

♀ Dark brown, rostrum, antennae and legs paler. Densely clothed with scarlet and stramineous scales, becoming white on under surface.

Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, rather thin and parallel-sided; with

a few punctures about muzzle and at extreme base, elsewhere polished and almost impunctate. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax more convex than usual, slightly transverse, sides rounded, base twice the width of apex; with dense, concealed punctures. Elytra cordate, not much wider than prothorax, base gently trisinate; with fairly large punctures, in rather wide striae, but punctures appearing much smaller and striae narrower through clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen large and strongly convex. Femora stout, each with a strong trineated tooth, front and middle tibiae stout, dilated to apex, and each with a long apical spine. Length, 4 mm.

New South Wales: Wagga Wagga, in November (W. W. Froggatt). Unique.

Allied to *D. squamivaria* and *metasternalis*, but front and middle tibiae shorter, more dilated to apex, the apex itself sloping at an angle of 45° , and the apical spine much longer, although on both commencing at the upper apex; the spine on each front tibia is so long, that, if drawn backwards, it would almost extend to the base of the tibia itself. *D. trifasciata* and *pretiosa* are smaller species, with somewhat similarly coloured scales, although differently disposed, but with very different front tibiae. *D. aulica* has very different tibiae. *D. metasternalis* has acutely dentate femora. The stramineous scales form a median line on the head, and are numerous at the sides of and behind the eyes, on the pronotum they form a median line, which at the middle is dilated to form an irregular basal patch, they are irregular on the side parts that are visible from above, but dense and paler on the lower parts, on the elytra they are irregularly deposited in spots and fasciae, that cover about half the surface.

DIETHUSA NIGRICLAVA sp. nov.

♀ Reddish-brown, club of antennae black. Rather densely and uniformly clothed with whitish scales.

Rostrum the length of prothorax, rather thin, parallel-sided and evenly curved; with a few punctures at extreme base, elsewhere polished and impunctate. Antennae inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, base twice the width of apex; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Elytra oblong-cordate, suddenly but not much wider than prothorax, base feebly trisinate; with comparatively small punctures, in deep striae, not much concealed by clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen large and evenly convex. Hind femora slightly dentate, the others edentate, tibiae rather long. Length, 4 mm.

New South Wales: Sydney, in flood debris (H. W. Cox). Type (unique), in National Museum.

The front and middle femora are truly edentate, and the hind ones from some

directions also appear edentate, but from others may be seen to have a small, acute tooth. *D. blackburni*, with uniformly pale clothing, has all femora conspicuously dentate. *D. congrua* and *basipennis*, some specimens of which have almost entirely pale clothing, have base of elytra very different. *D. inermis* has very different clothing and rostrum. *D. pallida* and *simplicipennis* are smaller species, with denser clothing, reducing the apparent size of the punctures in the elytral striae.

DIETHUSA MAJORINA Lea.

Although not noted in the original description, the sexes of this species may be distinguished by the abdomen; on the male the basal segment is shallowly depressed, and with a fine median line, denoting an approach to *D. metasternalis*, although the clothing is not conspicuously different there from the adjacent parts, as it is on the male of the latter species.

DIETHUSA METASTERNALIS Lea, var. BOREALIS var. nov.

Three specimens, one male and two females, from North Australia in the British Museum, appear to represent a variety of this species. The male has the median groove of the basal segment of abdomen and metasternum filled with golden setae as on the type, and the female has somewhat similar front tibiae, except that the spur commences lower down the sloping apex. The clothing of the upper surface differs considerably, however, being stramineous and white, instead of scarlet and stramineous; possibly the difference is due to age; the types of the species were described shortly after capture, whereas the Museum specimens were taken many years ago.

DIETHUSA SUBAURIFERA Lea, var.

Five specimens from Stanthorpe, Queensland, appear to represent a variety of this species, they differ from the typical form in having the scales more stramineous and white, than rusty-red and whitish, the elevation and undulation of the interstices are more pronounced (partly accentuated by pale spots) so that they might fairly be regarded as subtuberculate, each side of the middle of the pronotum also appears subtuberculate.

PSYDESTIS PICTIPENNIS sp. nov.

♂ Reddish, parts of under surface blackish. Densely clothed with stramineous scales, variegated with sooty-brown, becoming whitish on under surface.

Rostrum slightly shorter than prothorax, straight to near apex and then gently curved; with dense punctures, except on a feeble median ridge. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax with sides rounded and decreasing in width from base to apex; with crowded, concealed punctures.

Elytra wide, sides rounded and subcontinuous with those of prothorax, base trisinate, the lateral incurvatures rather feeble; with rows of large, partly concealed punctures; interstices wide and acutely ridged, the odd ones slightly elevated above the others. Basal segment of abdomen slightly longer than three following ones combined, widely and shallowly depressed in middle, second shorter than third and fourth combined. Femora stout, and obtusely dentate. Length, 4-5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly more curved, its punctures somewhat smaller, antennae inserted less close to apex, elytra wider, with outlines less continuous with those of prothorax, abdomen larger, the basal segment evenly convex, and front tibiae with a more conspicuous notch between the apical hook and subapical tooth.

Queensland (— Kraatz).

With the comparatively short parallel-sided rostrum, finely faceted eyes and short second abdominal segment of *P. affluens*, but the dark scales cover much less of the upper surface. On the type they form a small spot on each side of the base of the prothorax, and two close together at apex; on each elytron they form two transverse spots or abbreviated fasciae, one just before and one just behind the middle, with a small spot on the suture at the base and one near the apex. On one female the spots at the base of the prothorax are feeble, and the apical ones absent, on its elytra the spots are more irregular, but there is an asymmetrical median fascia. On a second female the prothoracic spots are entirely absent; on the elytra there are some small spots and two very irregular fasciae.

BYRSIA BINODIPENNIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae obscurely paler. Densely clothed with blackish and whitish scales.

Rostrum the length of prothorax, rather thin, gently curved; with dense and small, but sharply defined punctures, concealed only at extreme base. Antennae thin, inserted one-third from apex of rostrum, scape not reaching eyes. Prothorax about as long as wide, sides strongly rounded, punctures concealed, with a feeble median line. Scutellum distinct. Elytra oblong-cordate, much wider than prothorax, with deep punctures in narrow striae, partly (in places almost entirely) concealed by clothing, a small but distinct tubercle (preapical callosity) at the junction of the fifth and seventh interstices near apex. Pectoral canal wide, shallow and not acutely walled, clothed throughout. Two basal segments of abdomen large, faintly depressed in middle. Front and middle coxae slightly separated, femora stout, edentate. Length, 5.2-5.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, thinner,

more curved and with smaller punctures, although fairly dense, and two basal segments of abdomen larger and rather strongly convex.

Western Australia: Cne and Ankertell (H. W. Brown); East-West Railway: Kyebering Soak (National Museum, from — Chandler).

In some respects fairly close to *B. cerata*, but the prothorax longer in proportion, and without a mediobasal fovea, elytra conspicuously binodose, the tarsi shorter, with the claw-joint shorter, the claws more divergent, and clothing different. With the scapes at rest in the serobes, they are seen to terminate some distance from the eyes, a most unusual character in the subfamily; in *cerata* they almost touch the eyes. In general appearance the types are like elongated specimens of *Aonychus luctuosus*. The blackish or dark brown scales cover the head, except for a few whitish ones at the base and near the eyes, form a wide and very irregular median vitta on the pronotum, and almost connected along the front edge with the pectoral canal, clothe the elytra, except for an irregular white post-median fascia, and some minute spots, form spots on the apical half of abdomen and rings on the femora and tibiae; most of the white scales on the under surface have a silvery gloss, in places slightly tinged with green or golden-green. On the type male only there are some ochreous scales on the elytra, on one female the scales on the three apical segments of abdomen are almost entirely black.

DERETIOSUS AMPLIPENNIS sp. nov.

Black, some parts obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with slightly variegated, dark brown scales and setae, the latter forming fascicles on upper surface.

Head with a shallow, interocular impression. Rostrum rather long and strongly curved; apical two-thirds shining, and with numerous small punctures. Prothorax moderately transverse, subtriangular; with numerous small, normally concealed punctures. Elytra much wider than prothorax, not twice as long as wide, base trisinate, sides parallel to beyond middle; striate-punctate, striae appearing fine through clothing, and punctures almost or quite concealed. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae strongly arched at base, upper edge incurved near apex. Length, 9 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

A rather large and unusually wide species, not very close to any previously named. There are two conspicuous fascicles at the apex of prothorax, and four feeble ones across middle; on each elytron there are two elongate fascicles on the third interstice, one near the base, the other submedian, in addition each interstice has numerous small pustules, many of which have a stout, central seta; there is a small velvety patch immediately behind the scutellum. The head has several lines of pale clothing, which give it an appearance as of faint impressions. In

places where the clothing has been removed, the punctures of the abdomen are seen to be very small. The type is probably a female.

On this, and on all the following species, the antennae are inserted slightly nearer the apex than base of rostrum, and are of but little use in identifying the species.

DERETIOSUS LATUS sp. nov.

Dark brown, some parts paler. Densely clothed with scales, and with numerous stout setae.

Rostrum moderately long, strongly curved, parallel-sided; with crowded and rather small punctures on apical half, concealed elsewhere. Prothorax small, subtriangular; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra much wider than prothorax, not twice as long as wide; striate-punctate, the striae slightly indicated through clothing, and the punctures almost or quite concealed. Two basal segments of abdomen large, and strongly convex. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae arched at base. Length, 4.5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara), Dorey (Pascoe collection from A. R. Wallace, in British Museum).

An unusually wide species, the proportions being much as those of the preceding one, which is much larger and otherwise very different. On the type the scales are mostly of a pale slaty-grey, becoming darker posteriorly, and on the three apical segments of abdomen: its prothorax has a large, angular, blackish patch, widest at base, and narrowed to middle, where it has two small, dark fascicles, and is abruptly terminated; there are two small fascicles on the third interstice on each elytron, and numerous feeble pustules on most of them, many of which have a stout, central seta, but many others are without such. On the specimen in the British Museum the scales are mostly of a light brown, with the large mediobasal patch on the pronotum less sharply defined, and with a velvety patch behind the scutellum. Its abdomen is much abraded, exposing numerous minute punctures, and deep sutures between the second and fifth segments. The specimens are probably females.

DERETIOSUS CARINIROSTRIS sp. nov.

♂ Blackish-brown, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with greyish or greyish-brown scales, and with numerous stout, erect setae, some of which are spatulate.

Rostrum rather long and strongly curved; apical third shining and with small punctures, elsewhere squamose, but a fine median carina traceable. Prothorax small, subtriangular; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra much wider than prothorax, about twice as long as wide, parallel-sided to near apex,

base trisinnate; striate-punctate, striae slightly indicated through clothing, but punctures, which are moderately large, almost or quite concealed. Two basal segments of abdomen large and slightly flattened in middle. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae arched at base, and bisinnate on lower surface. Length, 4.3–4.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having rostrum slightly longer and thinner, more of its surface glabrous and with smaller punctures, median carina shorter, and abdomen evenly convex.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

About the size of the preceding species, but somewhat narrower, and with more numerous and longer erect bristles; it also approaches *D. hystricosus*, but the setae do not form fascicles on the prothorax, and the elytra are without a dark apical spot. The scales are mostly of a pale grey, or dark stramineous, and so dense that the derm, except of part of the rostrum, is everywhere concealed; on the under surface they are uniform in colour, but on the upper surface slightly mottled; there is also a faint, pale, reversed V on the elytra, the sides of which are directed towards the suture at the summit of the apical slope, but do not quite reach it. The setae are numerous on the upper surface and legs; they form a row on each interstice on elytra (but are easily disarranged), and an elongated fascicle on the third near base, there are also a few setae on the head and rostrum.

A male from Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner) probably belongs to this species, but has almost uniform rusty-brown scales (paler on the under surface, but not as pale as on the types) and sparser setae; the latter probably being partly abraded.

DERETIOSUS COLLARIS sp. nov.

♂ Dark brown, antennae paler. Densely clothed with dark rusty-brown, slightly variegated scales and setae, and with a narrow black fascia, half-way down the apical slope.

Rostrum the length of prothorax, moderately curved, parallel-sided; punctures visible only at tip. Prothorax rather small, subtriangular; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex, almost twice as long as wide; with regular rows of rather large punctures, normally concealed by clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen large, almost flat in middle. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae bisinnate on lower surface, the basal sinns much wider than the other. Length, 5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

A rather robust species, with a distinctive fascia, and several conspicuous fascicles. The clothing on the scutellum and under surface is paler than elsewhere, but on the upper surface the scales are almost uniformly coloured through-

out, except for a narrow, velvety-black fascia, which extends across four interstices on each elytron; there are six fascicles on the prothorax, two long ones at apex, and four smaller ones across middle; on the elytra there are numerous pustular elevations, usually with a short, stout, central seta; there are also two elongate fascicles of short setae on the third interstice on each elytron, one near the base, the other submedian. From certain directions an oblique ridge may be seen on each side of the prothorax, commencing close to the shoulder, and directed obliquely forwards, to end crowned with an outer fascicle of the median row. The scutellum is distinctly elevated, almost as on the species of *Ophrythyrcosis*.

DERETIOSUS SQUAMIPENNIS sp. nov.

Blackish, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with dingy brown scales and setae, conspicuously variegated on elytra, feebly mottled on under surface and legs.

Rostrum about the length of prothorax, parallel-sided, moderately curved; apical half naked and with small but sharply defined punctures. Prothorax rather small, sides rounded, apex half the width of base; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex; striate-punctate, striae indicated through clothing, the punctures almost or quite concealed. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamee). Unique.

A subcylindrical species, narrower than the preceding, and with different fascicles and markings. On *D. v-niger*, from Fiji, the sides of the V extend to the shoulders. On the elytra of the present species there is a conspicuous, wide black V, about one-third from the apex, and obscurely connected with the sides about the middle, beyond it the clothing is distinctly paler than before it. Each elytral interstice has numerous small pustules, mostly with a short, upright, central seta; the third interstice has a fairly large fascicle near the base, velvety-black in front, but brown posteriorly; on the prothorax the setae are numerous, but short and not forming fascicles. The basal segment of abdomen is slightly flattened in middle, but, as only half of the rostrum is densely clothed, the type is probably a female.

DERETIOSUS PUSTULOSUS sp. nov.

Dark brown, antennae paler, except club. Densely clothed with greyish or ashen, slightly variegated scales, becoming darker on apical half of abdomen, and with numerous, short, stout setae.

Rostrum long and thin, strongly curved, clothed only near base; elsewhere shining and with small punctures. Prothorax moderately transverse, apex sud-

denly narrowed; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, more than twice as wide as long, parallel-sided to near apex; with striae and punctures indicated through clothing. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 5-6 mm.

New Guinea: Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner).

With numerous pustular elevations on the elytra, as on the preceding species, but without a black fascia. The setae on the upper surface are numerous but not long, those on the elytra seldom distinctly arise above the pustules in which they are placed. There is a rather long, sponge-like fascicle near the base, on the third interstice, containing about seven stout setae. The prothorax has but few setae, and those are very short. From directly in front the prothorax is seen to have an obtuse median ridge, extending more than half-way across the surface, but interrupted in the middle, and another slightly oblique one, beginning on each side, at the subapical constriction, and widely interrupted in the middle. The two basal segments of abdomen are flattened in middle, but the clothing of the rostrum probably indicates that the two specimens taken are females.

DERETIOSUS LATERIPENNIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, some parts obscurely reddish, antennae paler. Densely clothed with ashen, slightly variegated scales, becoming paler on under parts; a conspicuous blackish spot on the middle of the side of each elytron. With numerous stout, erect setae, becoming sparser, shorter, and depressed on under surface.

Rostrum long, thin and strongly curved, basal third squamose, elsewhere shining and with minute punctures. Prothorax scarcely wider than long; with crowded, concealed punctures, and a fine, concealed median carina. Elytra elongate, not much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex. Pectoral canal triangularly cutting for a short distance into metasternum. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 3.8-4.8 mm.

♀ Differs in having rostrum longer, thinner, with scarcely visible punctures, less of its base clothed, and abdomen more convex.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Abundant.

An elongate, slightly depressed species, from the upper surface apparently belonging to *Chaectectorus* or *Pseudapries*, but with the pectoral canal of *Deretiosus*; the tip of the canal cuts triangularly into the metasternum, but not sufficiently long for the species to be referred to *Dystropicus*. On many specimens the scales on the upper surface are pale brown, with numerous paler, almost white, vittae, and many small, dark spots, but the blackish spot on each side is fairly large, oblong, and invisible from above; there are usually two pale brown spots on the head. There are no pustules on the elytra, the setae arising in a regular

row on each interstice; on the pronotum the setae are often in four irregular rows, and in places are compacted to form fascicles, of which there are usually two fairly distinct ones in the middle. On specimens in perfect condition the elytra appear to have small punctures in fine striae, but on complete abrasion striae are seen to be present only on the sides and posteriorly, elsewhere the punctures are fairly large, suboblong, and in regular rows.

DERETIOSUS PARVUS sp. nov.

Dark brown, rostrum, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with mottled brown and grey scales, becoming white on under parts; with numerous short, stout setae scattered about.

Rostrum rather long, thin, and strongly curved; squamose only near base, elsewhere shining and with scarcely visible punctures. Prothorax rather strongly transverse, apex about half the width of base; with crowded punctures indicated through clothing, and with a feeble median carina. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex; with regular rows of fairly large punctures, almost or quite concealed by clothing, but the striae appearing fine and regular through it. Legs short, front femora strongly and acutely dentate, the others less strongly, tibiae angular at outer base, apical hook widely diverging from apex. Length, 3 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

The smallest species hitherto known from New Guinea. The clothing has a slight pustular appearance on the elytra, but has been partly abraded, the third interstice near the base has an obscure fascicle, the setae on the prothorax are fairly numerous, but do not form fascicles. On the head there is a pale median line, and two small, pale spots. The pectoral canal is squamose throughout, its end appears as a slight incurvature of the metasternum, with its lower part in two planes, the higher one between the middle coxae. The type is probably a female.

DERETIOSUS FASCICULACEPS sp. nov.

♂ Blackish, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with whitish-stramineous scales, variegated with pale brown; with stout setae, confined to fascicles and pustules on upper surface, but free on legs.

Rostrum comparatively stout, moderately curved; apical third opaque and with crowded punctures, elsewhere densely clothed. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides subparallel to beyond the middle, and then suddenly narrowed and slightly depressed; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex; with rows of punctures, in striae indicated

through clothing. Basal segment of abdomen flat in middle, apical with a shallow depression. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae arched at base. Length, 5.5 mm.

Fiji (Bowring collection). Type (unique) in British Museum.

A pallid species. Its nearest Fijian ally is *D. lectus*, but on that species the fascicles on the third interstice are larger, the small median ones on the pronotum are black, the head is nonfasciculate, and the rostrum is decidedly thinner. The positions of the prothoracic fascicles, and the pustules on the elytra, are somewhat as on *D. exithioides*, but on that species there is a black sutural mark, and the head is not fasciculate. The clothing is mostly pale stramineous, with faint brown mottlings on the under surface and legs, as well as on the upper surface; there are two distinct fascicles on the front of the head, immediately behind which is a narrow, white fascia; on the prothorax there are two small fascicles in front, and six in front of the middle, of the latter the two median ones are very small, and the outer one on each side partly concealed from above. On the odd interstices of elytra there are numerous pustules, each with a stout central seta, and there is a small fascicle on the third interstice near base.

DERETIOSUS ALPHABETICUS sp. nov.

♀ Dark brown, antennae paler. Densely clothed with rusty-brown scales, becoming paler on under parts; elytra with a large blackish V, outlined with paler scales; upper surface with short, stout setae, mostly confined to fascicles on prothorax, and to pustules on elytra.

Rostrum rather thin and moderately curved; apical half shining and with small punctures, elsewhere squamose. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides suddenly narrowed near apex; with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra scarcely wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to near apex; striae indicated through clothing, but punctures concealed. Two basal segments of abdomen large and evenly convex. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 4.5 mm.

Torres Straits: Murray Island. Type (unique) in British Museum.

A rather narrow, subcylindrical species, each interstice with a row of small pustules, each of which has a short, central seta; on the third interstice, near base, there is an obscure, fasciculate swelling; on the prothorax there are remnants of six fascicles in the usual positions. On the elytra there is a large dark V, the parts commencing on the shoulders, and meeting on the suture beyond the middle; a second dark V is indicated beyond the first, but is incomplete. *D. e-niger*, from Fiji, is a distinctly wider species, the V is wider at the suture, the pustules are more pronounced, and the abdominal clothing is darker.

DERETIOSUS ZICZAC sp. nov.

Dark brown, rostrum, antennae, and tarsi paler. Densely clothed with dark and pale brown scales, becoming paler, but not uniform, on under parts; with numerous setae scattered about and compacted into fascicles.

Rostrum long, thin, and moderately curved; squamose and setose on basal third, elsewhere shining and with minute punctures. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded; with crowded, concealed punctures and a fine median carina. Elytra much wider than prothorax, not twice as long as wide, parallel-sided to about middle; with rows of moderately large, concealed punctures. Two basal segments of abdomen large and evenly convex. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, the front ones less strongly than the others; tibiae angular at outer base, apical hook less conspicuous than usual. Length, 2.5 mm.

New South Wales (C. F. Denquet).

A comparatively wide species, smaller than any previously described from Australia, but slightly larger than some of the Fijian specimens of *D. minutus*. The type is in perfect condition, on its head there are three small dark spots and two loose fascicles, on the prothorax there is a narrow dark cross, the elytra appear multimaculate, and the summit of the apical slope is crowned by a narrow, pale, zigzag mark, on each elytron it goes obliquely backwards from the suture, then obliquely forwards, then straight backwards, and then obliquely backwards to near the margin; on the scutellum the scales are whitish. There are numerous setae on the prothorax, and six fascicles in the usual positions; on the elytra there are lines of setae and some small fascicles, and two larger ones on the third interstice, one near the base, the other submedian. On a second specimen the markings, owing to partial abrasion, are less distinct. Each is probably a female.

DERETIOSUS SANCTUS sp. nov.

Dark brown, antennae paler. Densely clothed with light brown scales, becoming paler on under surface, and variegated with paler and darker spots, including a pale X on elytra, and a large, subtriangular, black spot on each side. With numerous short, erect setae, on the elytra confined to a single row on each interstice, on the prothorax, in places, compacted to form loose fascicles.

Rostrum long, thin and strongly curved; basal half squamose and setose, elsewhere shining, and with small but sharply defined punctures. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides rounded, near apex suddenly narrowed; with crowded punctures indicated through clothing. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, almost parallel-sided to near apex; striate-punctate, the punctures rather large, but appearing much smaller through clothing. Abdomen with two basal segments large and widely flattened in middle. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 6 mm.

Queenland: Endeavour River. Type (unique) in Macleay Museum.

Fairly close to *D. lateripennis*, and with almost identical legs, but larger, wider, prothorax wider in proportion, and elytra with a pale X, the arms of which cross the suture, slightly beyond the basal third, and the front ends of which rest on the shoulders: the dark spot on each side is not narrow and almost confined to one interstee, as on that species, but occupies three interstices, and is partly visible from above; each femur also has a dark spot. In general appearance it is fairly close to *Dystropicus tanyrhynchus*, and has somewhat similar rostrum and legs, but on that species the pectoral canal cuts deeply into the metasternum, on this species the canal ends at it. The type is probably a male.

DERETIOSUS ARIDUS Pascoe.

D. blandus Lea, var.

A long series of specimens, from Cairns, appears to connect *D. blandus* with *D. aridus*; although the type and other specimens of *blandus* appear to be very distinct from the typical form.

DERETIOSUS EREMITUS Pascoe. (formerly *Apries*).

The genotype of *Deretiosus (aridus)* Pascoe, Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool., XI, p. 184, pl. viii, fig. 10, (from New Guinea), was described as having the pectoral canal "*indeterminata, metasterno impingens*," and "open at the sides and impinging on the metasternum"; in the same paper *Apries* (genotype *eremita* Pascoe, p. 196, pl. ix, fig. 6, from Batchian) was described as having the pectoral canal "*apice cavernosa*". The excellent figure of the latter is so like a species from New Guinea, in the South Australian Museum, that I thought it probably belonged to it; but this species has the canal open at the apex, in exactly the same way as in *aridus*, and many other species of *Deretiosus*. For the canal to be truly cavernous at its apex the intercoxal process, nearly always of the mesosternum, should be arched over, concealing the tip of the rostrum when at rest.

I, therefore, sent a specimen of the New Guinea species in question to Mr. Arrow, of the British Museum, asking him to compare it with the type and he wrote that it "appears to me to be the same as *Apries eremita* Pascoe. We have a specimen from the Philippine Islands, so the distribution is evidently very wide. The pattern is very variable, but your specimen agrees closely with the type in this."

Pascoe also wrote of *Apries*, "The groove immediately before the eye, the peculiar character of this genus, terminates in the scrobe." But the same groove may be seen in *aridus*, and in most species of *Deretiosus*, although less pronounced.

A. eremita, therefore, should be referred to *Deretiosus*, and *Apries* considered a pure synonym of that genus.

MECHISTOCERUS GRANIBASIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae reddish. Irregularly clothed with brick-red scales and setae, becoming whitish on under surface.

Head with crowded punctures, and a narrow, deep, interocular impression. Rostrum the length of prothorax, evenly curved, basal half with fine ridges and coarse, squamiferous punctures, elsewhere with small, naked punctures. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, club the length of four preceding joints. Prothorax almost as long as wide, sides subparallel to near apex; with crowded, sharply defined punctures, except where concealed in front; with a short median carina. Elytra rather long, not much wider than prothorax, base trisinate, shoulders feebly clasping base of prothorax; with rows of large, deep punctures, suboblong on basal half, smaller and rounded posteriorly; with numerous small granules on basal half, more numerous on the third, fifth, and seventh interstices than on the others. Metasternum with dense punctures, slightly smaller than on prothorax. Basal segment of abdomen widely concave, second flattened in middle, each with fairly numerous and rather large punctures, the apical with crowded ones. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tooth on each hind one larger than the others; tibiae long and thin. Length, 7-8 mm.

♀ Differs in having less of the rostrum coarsely sculptured and the two basal segments of abdomen gently convex in middle.

New Guinea: Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner); Sattelberg (—v. Bennigsen).

Approaching *M. cancellatus*, *metasternalis*, and *magnideus*, and several other species from Queensland, but distinct by the basal granules of elytra. The femoral dentition is much as on *magnideus*. On several specimens the elytral scales are of a rather bright brick-red colour, obscurely variegated with transverse fasciae, and patches of sooty-brown scales; each interstice has a row of stout setae (distinct from the sides), usually of the same colour as the adjacent scales. The apex of the prothorax is densely squamose, elsewhere its clothing consists of a seta in each puncture. On the femora the scales are fairly dense. The elytral punctures are partly obscured by clothing, especially on the apical half, their containing striae are distinct on the sides but feeble elsewhere.

MECHISTOCERUS SORDIDUS sp. nov.

♀ Black, antennae reddish, apex of rostrum and parts of legs obscurely diluted with red. Densely clothed with muddy-brown scales, and with numerous erect setae.

Head with dense punctures, and with a narrow, deep, interocular impression. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, evenly curved, about base with fine ridges and coarse, setiferous punctures, elsewhere shining and with minute punc-

tures. Antennae inserted slightly nearer apex than base of rostrum, club the length of four preceding joints combined. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides almost parallel to apical third; with crowded, partly concealed punctures, and a faint remnant of a median carina. Elytra distinctly wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to beyond the middle, base trisinate, shoulders slightly clasping base of prothorax; with rows of large, oblong punctures, becoming smaller and rounded posteriorly, and on the sides set in feeble striae. Metasternum with crowded and rather large punctures, and with a narrow median line. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex, and with sharply defined punctures, not very close together, except for a basal row. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, tooth on each hind femur large, and equilaterally triangular; tibiae long and thin. Length, 6.5 mm.

New Guinea (—v. Bemisgen).

In general appearance like *M. punctiventris*, from New South Wales and Queensland, but abdominal punctures very different and elytral setae more numerous. It is a dingy species, with femoral dentition much as on *M. magnidens*, and the preceding species, but prothorax very differently clothed. At first glance the scales on the upper surface appear to be of an uniform, dingy brown colour, but on close examination they are seen to be slightly variegated on the elytra; on the under parts they are paler. The setae are very distinct from the sides, they are longer on the elytra than on the pronotum, and form a distinct row on each interstice.

MECHISTOCERUS MACULARIASIS sp. nov.

♀ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Elytra moderately clothed with muddy-brown and greyish scales, irregularly mixed; each interstice with a row of semierect setae, each prothoracic puncture with a seta; under surface moderately clothed, the legs more densely so.

Head with crowded punctures, and a narrow, deep interocular impression. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, evenly curved; with ridges and coarse, setiferous punctures on basal third, elsewhere with minute punctures. Antennae inserted almost in middle of rostrum. Prothorax slightly transverse, base truncate, sides subparallel to beyond the middle, and then rounded to apex; with crowded, sharply defined punctures, and a feeble median carina. Elytra elongate-subcordate, considerably wider than prothorax, shoulders rounded, sides parallel to beyond the middle; with rows of large, oblong punctures; becoming smaller and rounded posteriorly. Metasternum with punctures much as on pronotum. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex, the first with large punctures about base, becoming smaller posteriorly, where they are about as large

as on the second segment, apical segment with crowded punctures: the third and fourth each with a single row of rather distant ones. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, the hind femora with larger teeth than the others; tibiae long and thin. Length, 7 mm.

New Guinea (Paul Hossfeld) Herbertshöh (—Pape).

A dingy species, in general appearance close to the preceding one, but the elytra are not trisinate at the base, as on that species, consequently the shoulders do not clasp the base of the prothorax, their setae are also shorter. Each elytron has two fairly distinct narrow spots at the base, on the third interstice and shoulder, each preapical callosity is fairly well marked with pale scales, but otherwise the mottling on the elytra is very obscure. The rostrum is obscurely dilated with red in front.

Since this description was prepared other specimens, apparently belonging to the species, were obtained from the Solomons (Bougainville, in October, E. O. Pockley; Shortland Island, C. Ribbe); New Georgia (National Museum); and Papua (Mount Lamington, C. T. McNamara). They are slightly larger, up to 8 mm., than the type, the elytral setae are less distinct, on some specimens indistinct even on the apical slope, and on several of them the tooth of the front femora is distinctly larger. Three of them are males, and have the basal segment of abdomen depressed in middle.

Mecistocercus triangulifer sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with whitish or greyish scales and setae, each elytron with a large triangle of sooty-brown scales: under surface and legs with whitish scales.

Head with crowded, partly concealed punctures, and with a comparatively small interocular depression. Rostrum about the length of prothorax, rather thin and evenly curved, parallel-sided, except for a slight basal enlargement: basal two-fifths with fine ridges, and coarse, squamiferous punctures, elsewhere with dense and rather coarse, naked punctures. Antennae inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum, club the length of three preceding joints combined. Prothorax about as long as wide, sides evenly rounded to near apex, which is about half the width of base; with crowded, partly concealed punctures, and a feeble median carina. Elytra elongate, parallel-sided to beyond the middle, base trisinate, and not much wider than prothorax; with rows of large, deep, sub-oblong, partly concealed punctures, becoming smaller and rounded posteriorly. Under surface with crowded punctures, those on metasternum and parts of abdomen as large as those on pronotum. Metasternum with a feeble median groove. Basal segment of abdomen feebly depressed in middle, third and fourth

slightly arched, with numerous punctures, their combined length slightly greater than second or fifth. Femora stout, and, especially the hind ones, strongly and acutely dentate. Length, 8.5 mm.

Queensland: Cape York (— Pape). Unique.

A rather dingy species, with markings approaching those of some specimens of *M. calidris*, but elytra narrower, and more parallel-sided, yet less than on *M. vulcratus* and *M. cylindricus* (which have very different clothing). At first glance it appears close to *Cumplorrhinus inornatus*. The scales on the upper surface are feebly variegated, but there is a large, ill-defined triangle on each elytron, its side occupying the median third on each side, and its apex touching the suture at the apical third; some of the paler scales have a silvery or coppery gloss. The scales on the pronotum are large, and each fills its containing puncture, it has no suberect setae, but on the elytra there are some setae, indistinct from above, fairly distinct from the sides, and forming a feeble row on each interstice (as seen from behind). When the elytral clothing has been partly abraded the interstices appear to be closely granulate-punctate.

A specimen from Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner), is structurally so close to the type that I think it must belong to the species, but it is much less densely clothed (possibly owing to abrasion), the elytral scales are irregularly mottled from a dingy white to dark brown, with a less defined dark spot on each elytron about the middle.

MECHISTOCERUS TIBIALIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and claw joints reddish. Upper surface densely clothed with more or less brown scales, each elytron with a short, pale vitta on third interstice at base, each interstice with a suberect row of rather short setae; legs with dense rusty-brown scales and whitish setae; metasternum and abdomen non-squamose, but with a seta in each puncture.

Head with dense, partially concealed punctures in front, base glabrous; with a narrow, deep, interocular impression. Rostrum the length of prothorax, evenly curved, sides gently dilated on basal third; with fine ridges, and coarse, squamiferous punctures on basal half, elsewhere with small, naked punctures. Antennae thin, inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum, club almost the length of four preceding joints combined. Prothorax almost as long as its greatest width, which is at apical third, where the sides are rather strongly rounded; with crowded, partly concealed punctures and a narrow median carina. Elytra considerably wider than prothorax, rather long, parallel-sided to beyond the middle, base trisinate, shoulders clasping prothorax; with rows of large, deep, oblong punctures, not very close together on basal half, but becoming smaller and closer

together posteriorly, where (as also on the sides) they are in rather feeble striae; preapical callosities distinct. Metasternum with rather large punctures, but smaller and in a single row on each episternum. Basal segment of abdomen convex, except for a slight median flattening; with comparatively small punctures, except for a basal row of large ones, second to fourth with rather sparse small ones, but crowded on apical segment. Femora stout and acutely dentate, tooth on hind one much larger than the others; tibiae long, thin, and arched at base; front ones conspicuously fringed on apical half; padding of front tarsi longer than on the others. Length, 9 mm.

Burn (— Pape).

With the coarse elytral punctures and spot on each side of base, as on *M. basalis* (from Queensland), but front tibiae of male conspicuously fringed, size larger, and clothing different.

A specimen from Papua (Mount Lamington, C. T. McNamara), is probably a partly abraded female of this species; it is smaller, 7 mm., the elytra much less densely clothed, but with two conspicuous basal spots, basal segment of abdomen more convex, and less of the rostrum with crowded punctures.

Mecynstocerus fimbritarsis sp. nov.

♂ Black, some parts obscurely diluted with red, antennae paler. Rather densely clothed with muddy-brown, slightly variegated scales, interspersed with paler, sloping setae.

Head with a narrow, deep, interocular fovea. Rostrum rather long, thin, curved, and parallel-sided, basal half with coarse, partly concealed punctures and a median carina, apical half shining and with fairly dense and small punctures. Antennae inserted slightly nearer apex than base of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides feebly dilated from base to beyond the middle, and then strongly rounded; with crowded thimble punctures of moderate size, and a narrow, almost continuous, median carina. Elytra slightly wider than prothorax; with rows of large, deep punctures, becoming smaller, but still fairly large, posteriorly. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex, with fairly large and numerous but not crowded punctures, third and fourth each with a single row across middle. Legs moderately long, front femora slightly, middle moderately, hind ones strongly dentate; three basal joints of front tarsi conspicuously fringed. Length, 7-8 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer, thinner, less clothed and with smaller punctures, and front tarsi not fringed.

North Western Australia: North Australia: Darwin (Macleay Museum), King River, in December (W. McLennan). Types in Macleay Museum, cotypes in National and South Australian Museums.

A dingy species, in general appearance like *M. maculibasis* and several others from New Guinea, but distinct by the fimbriated front tarsi of the male. The four specimens examined are all rather dingy, on two of them there are two feeble spots at the base of the elytra, as on many New Guinea species; the femora are feebly ringed with darker scales. There are some small granules on the elytra, but they are normally concealed; Where the clothing has been abraded the punctures are seen to be much larger than those on the prothorax, except posteriorly.

MECHISTOCERUS DENTIVARIUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, parts of legs obscurely diluted with red, antennae reddish. Rather sparsely clothed with dark brown scales, the elytra with a thin irregular fascia of whitish scales crowning the apical slope, and a few feeble spots elsewhere, in addition with stout sloping setae, rather numerous on the legs, and forming a single row on each elytral interstice.

Head with a small, deep, triangular, interocular fovea. Rostrum long, thin, curved and parallel-sided from near the base; basal third with crowded, partly concealed punctures, and a median carina, elsewhere shining and with small punctures. Prothorax slightly transverse, sides obliquely increasing in width to near apex, and then strongly narrowed; with dense thimble punctures of moderate size, and a narrow median carina. Elytra distinctly wider than base of prothorax; with rows of large, deep, angular punctures, becoming smaller, but still fairly large, posteriorly. Basal segment of abdomen widely and shallowly depressed; with large punctures at base, ranging to small at apex, fairly large ones on second, a single row across middle of each of the third and fourth. Front femora slightly, middle moderately, hind ones strongly dentate. Length, 5-6 mm.

♀ Differs in having rostrum slightly longer, thinner, less clothed and with smaller punctures, and basal segment of abdomen rather strongly convex.

Torres Straits: Moa Island, in January to light (W. McLennan); male, K. 47865, in Australian Museum; Queensland (Fry Collection, 51471), female, in British Museum.

A small species, about the size of *M. duplicatus*, but with sharply defined punctures and much smaller femoral teeth; it is more robust than *M. cancellatus*, and the front femora are almost edentate. From above it has the appearance of several species of *Tyrlacosus*, but the pectoral canal is that of *Mechistocerus*. On the male there are some rust-coloured setae that form a T on the pronotum, due to being rather dense at the apex and overlapping, and partly concealing the median carina; from the female most of the setae have been abraded; the latter has the abdomen somewhat reddish, probably from immaturity.

Mechistocerus bivittipennis sp. nov.

Black, parts of rostrum and of legs obscurely diluted with red, antennae rather pale red. Densely clothed with two shades of brown scales and setae, prothorax and under surface with setae only, legs with light brown scales and white setae.

Head with a large, deep, semidouble, interocular fovea. Rostrum long, thin, and slightly dilated at base, about which the punctures are dense and strong, elsewhere shining and scarcely visibly punctate. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides rather strongly rounded; with dense thimble punctures of moderate size, and a narrow median carina. Elytra distinctly wider than prothorax; with rows of large, angular punctures, becoming much smaller posteriorly, interstices with numerous small granules about base, sparse elsewhere. Abdomen with numerous punctures, except that each of the third and fourth segments has a single setiferous row. Legs rather long, all femora strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae thin and compressed. Length, 8-9 mm.

New Guinea: Wareo (Rev. L. Wagner).

On the pronotum the paler setae form a distinct median line, and a feeble one towards each side, on each elytron the paler spots are fairly numerous and feeble, but there is a distinct one on the preapical callus, there is also a narrow, distinct, slightly oblique vitta, on the third interstice from the base to near the middle, which renders the species a very distinct one, although it is but an extension of a basal spot that occurs on so many species of the genus. The basal segments of abdomen are rather strongly convex, so the two specimens examined are probably females.

Mechistocerus ursus sp. nov.

Black, antennae obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with dark, muddy-brown scales, variegated with whitish on elytra; in addition with rather dense suberect or sloping setae, mostly rusty-brown on upper surface, mostly whitish on under surface and legs.

Head with a rather narrow, subtriangular, interocular fovea. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, moderately curved, somewhat dilated towards and notched on each side of base, about base with crowded, partly concealed punctures, elsewhere shining and with small ones. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax rather small, slightly transverse, sides strongly rounded; with dense, concealed punctures. Elytra distinctly wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to beyond the middle; with rows of large, deep, angular punctures, mostly concealed by clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly

convex, third and fourth each with two irregular rows of punctures across middle, and crowded on sides. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, especially the hind pair, tibiae rather long and compressed. Length, 7–8 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

With unusually dense scales and setae, concealing most of the punctures of the upper surface, even many of the large ones on the basal half of elytra. On the elytra the pale scales form numerous feeble spots, with an ill-defined fascia crowning the apical slope. Although, when viewed from behind, the elytral setae are seen to be placed in a single row on each interstice, they are so close together that on slight disarrangement they appear from above to be irregularly crowded. The species is not very close to any other before me. The two specimens taken appear to be females.

MECHISTOCERUS UNIFORMIS sp. nov.

♀ Black, rostrum and parts of legs obscurely diluted with red, antennae paler. Densely clothed with small, rusty-brown scales, interspersed with short, sloping setae; under surface sparsely clothed.

Head with a narrow, deep, interocular fovea. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, moderately thin, sides somewhat dilated towards base, each side of which is notched; about base with coarse, partly concealed punctures, and a short median carina, elsewhere shining and almost impunctate. Antennae inserted slightly nearer base than apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, basal half parallel-sided; with crowded punctures and a fine median carina traceable through clothing. Elytra conspicuously wider than prothorax; with rows of large, deep, angular punctures, becoming smaller posteriorly. Basal segment of abdomen evenly convex; with large punctures, becoming smaller posteriorly, third and fourth segments each with an irregular transverse row of small, setiferous punctures. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, especially the hind pair. Length, 5 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

Not very close to any other species before me. The clothing has a curious velvety appearance; although the derm of the upper surface is entirely concealed by them, the individual scales are so small, that the punctures, except some of the smaller ones, are clearly traceable. The setae are unusually short, but being of a slightly different shade from the scales amongst which they are set, they are fairly distinct.

MECHISTOCERUS PARVICOLLIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown and whitish scales and setae.

Head with a narrow, deep, interocular fovea. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, not very thin, almost parallel-sided; with crowded punctures, becoming larger and partly concealed on basal half, with a continuous median carina and two shorter ones on each side. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax small, almost as long as wide, basal half parallel-sided; with dense punctures of moderate size, and with a fine median carina. Elytra much wider than prothorax, parallel-sided to beyond the middle; with rows of deep, more or less oblong punctures, each containing a seta. Basal segment of abdomen flattened in middle. Femora strongly and acutely dentate, tibiae long, thin, and compressed. Length, 8 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

The type is in perfect condition, and the species is distinct from all previously described Australasian ones by its small prothorax, this being scarcely three-fifths the width of the base of elytra. The pale scales on the elytra form numerous spots and abbreviated fasciae, on the prothorax they form a median line, and a less distinct one on each side; on the legs the scales are of a rather pale brown, and the setae are pure white; on the under surface there are no depressed scales, but the setae are fairly numerous, and on each of the third and fourth segments of abdomen they form two transverse rows.

Mecistocercus maculosus sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with slaty-brown and whitish scales and setae.

Head with a narrow, deep, interocular fovea. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, not very thin, notched on each side of base; basal half with crowded and usually concealed punctures, and a narrow median carina, elsewhere shining and with small punctures. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, basal two-thirds parallel-sided; with dense, partly concealed thimble punctures of moderate size, and with a narrow, concealed median carina. Elytra not much wider than prothorax; with rows of large, deep, oblong punctures, becoming smaller posteriorly. Two basal segments of abdomen rather strongly convex, and with numerous punctures of moderate size. Femora strongly and acutely dentate, especially the hind pair, tibiae rather long and thin. Length, 4.5 mm.

Papua: Buna Bay (C. T. McNamara). Unique.

About the size of *M. egenus*, from Queensland, but clothing paler, rostrum stouter, and femoral dentition stronger; at first glance it looks like a drusely clothed specimen of *M. trisinuatus*, from the Malay Peninsula, but the clothing and dentition are different. On the elytra the whitish scales form numerous irregularly distributed spots, including four at the base, which occupy about

one-third of the surface; on the pronotum they form a narrow median line, and irregular spots on the sides; on the legs the clothing is mostly whitish; on the under surface there are no scales, but the whitish setae are numerous, except on the third and fourth segments of abdomen, on each of which they form a transverse row. On the elytra there is a regular row of stout, white, sloping setae, on each interstee. The sex of the type is doubtful; the coarse punctures occupy more of the rostrum than is usual on females, and the front tarsi have some straggling hairs, although they are not distinctly fimbriated; but the basal segment of abdomen is evenly convex.

MECHISTOCERUS ATRONITIDUS sp. nov.

Black, shining, antennae bright castaneous. Under surface and legs with sparse, whitish setae, elsewhere glabrous, except for a few setae on apical slope of elytra.

Head with a narrow, deep, interocular fovea. Rostrum slightly longer than prothorax, moderately thin; with rather dense and coarse punctures about base, minute elsewhere. Prothorax moderately transverse, basal half parallel-sided; with dense but not crowded punctures of moderate size. Elytra oblong-cordate, not much wider than prothorax; with large, deep, oblong punctures about base, much smaller elsewhere. Metasternum deeply sulcate in middle. Abdomen with sparse and small punctures, but rather dense and of moderate size on apical segment; basal segment gently convex. Front femora slightly but acutely dentate, middle moderately, hind ones strongly and acutely; tibiae thin, the hind ones strongly arched at basal third. Length, 3.5–4.0 mm.

Papua: Mount Lamington (C. T. McNamara).

A small species about the size of *M. trisinuatus*, but otherwise very different: at first glance it appears to belong to the Baridiinae. The hind tibiae are unusually strongly and suddenly arched, and the teeth of the hind femora are larger than on most species of the genus. Four specimens were obtained by Mr. McNamara; they differ to a slight extent in the abdomen and rostrum, but as the curvature of the hind tibiae is alike on all of them they appear to be of one sex, probably males. They are all shining and glabrous on the upper surface, so the absence of clothing is evidently not due to abrasion. A specimen from Finseh Haven, taken by Rev. L. Wagner, on sticky hairs of a species of *Pisonia*, is smaller (3 mm.), and has somewhat stronger punctures on the under surface, but appears to belong to the same species.

MECHISTOCERUS CALIDRIS Pasg.

Four specimens, from the Solomons, differ from others from Australia and New Guinea, in having the paler scales of a more reddish tone than usual.

MECHISTOCERUS MULTIMACULATUS Lea.

This species occurs in Papua (Mount Lamington), and New Guinea (Finsch Haven and Bongu), as well as in Queensland.

MECHISTOCERUS ATOMOSPARSUS Fairm.

(formerly *Cyamobolus*), 1878. *M. languidus* Lea, 1905.

A specimen in the National Museum, from the Godeffroy collection, is labelled *Cyamobolus atomosparsus*, and bears the number 16015. It was evidently from Fiji, and bears the same number as another species from there, which is labelled *Mecistocerus ocellatolineatus* (in error for *ocellolineatus*). It appears to be correctly named, although the type was described as having "*cinereo-carnis*" scales, and again "*pedibus dense cinerea-carneo squamulosis*." In all the many specimens before me the scales are not at all red, being greyish, or pale brown, or slightly mottled. The front legs of the male are long and thin, the tibiae with a long fringe of golden hairs continued on to the tarsi; the front tibiae were not mentioned in the original description of *atomosparsus*, which reads as if founded upon a female. Fairmaire considered the species could not be referred to *Mecistocerus*, on account of the rostral canal, but this is margined, behind the front coxae, by walls which belong to the prosternum, instead of the mesosternum (to see this clearly it is sometimes necessary to detach the prosternum from the mesosternum); a character almost unique in the subfamily. The species is common in Fiji (Viti Levu, Vanna Levu, and Ovalau), where it often comes into houses. It also occurs in New Guinea, Aru, Queensland, New South Wales, and Labuan.

Unfortunately I described the species as *M. languidus*, which name must now be treated as a synonym. I have also seen a specimen, from New Guinea, identified by Dr. K. M. Heller as belonging to *Parendymia*.

MECHISTOCERUS MAGNIDENS Lea.

Specimens of this species have been reared from sapwood of the Queensland waiant, *Endiandra Palmerstoni*, at Cairns.

FAMILY CERAMBYCIDAE.

XIXUTIRUS HEROS Heer.

Fig. 2.

There are two specimens of this huge Fijian longicorn in the South Australian Museum from Viti Levu; the male 125 mm. in length, the female 90 mm.; the former taken by Mr. C. T. McNamara in June, the latter by Dr. Baly in July.

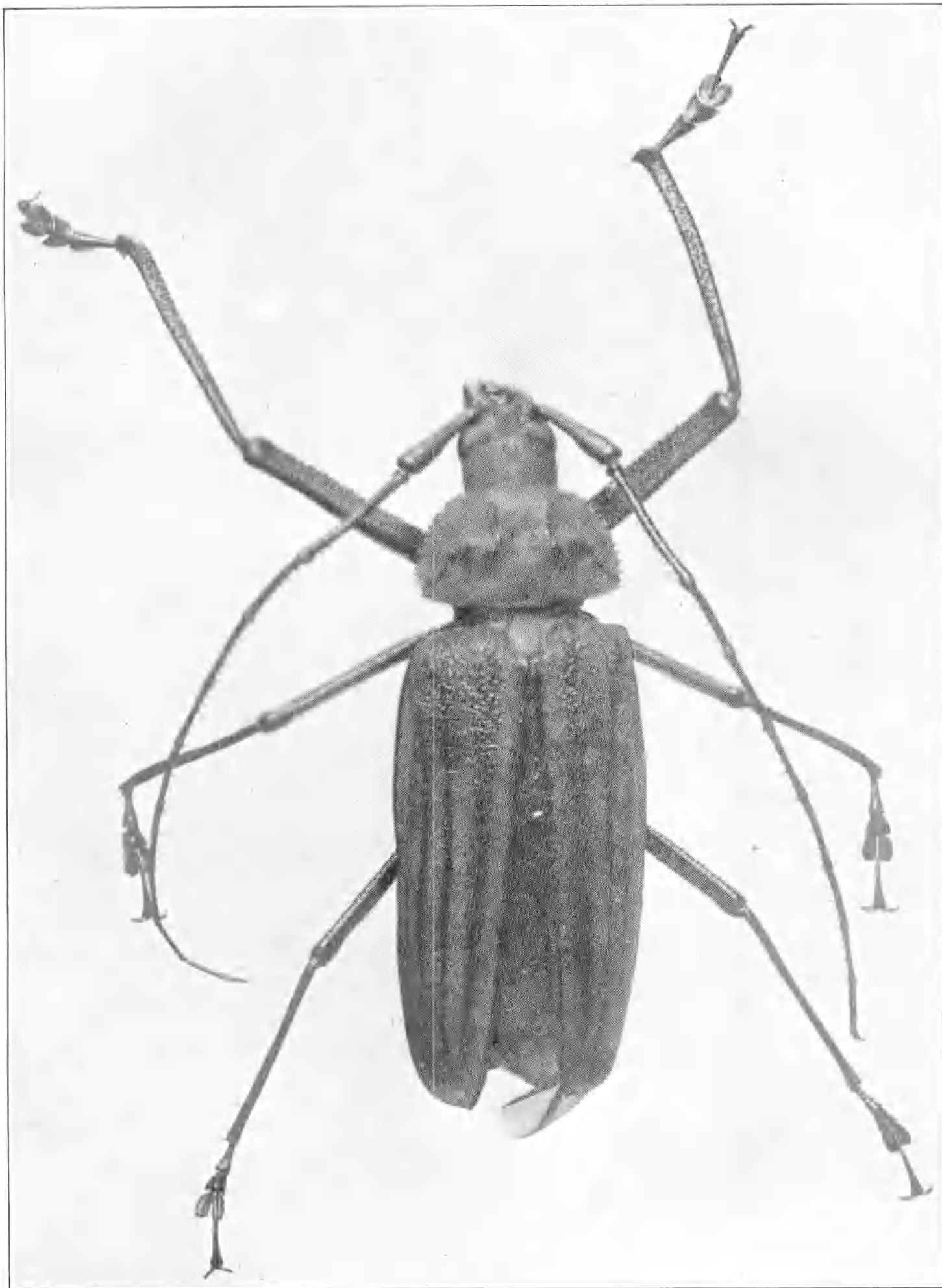


Fig. 2. *Xicuthrus heros* Heev. Natural size. Photo, B. Cotton.

MICROTRAGUS SENEX White.

Mrs. Daisy Bates, of Ooldea, writes that she has two aboriginal names for this species: "Kardilga" and "Miring."